

Criteria for Selecting Statewide Public Health Indicators

The following criteria are helpful in developing useful indicators for measurement of performance.

1. Measures an important aspect, result or outcome of public health's work
2. Population-based
3. Measurable (Able to be defined in standard, specific terms)
4. Feasible to collect, not too expensive
5. Actionable, meaning that actions or interventions could be taken by public health staff to improve performance against the measure
6. Can be reported routinely at least 90% of local sites and aggregated to the regional and state level, compared to the nation when possible
7. Indicator may be either a measurement of health status, health risk or health impact
8. Trend data available to monitor direction of change with annual to biennial updates
9. Links to and is consistent with local, state, and national measures, like Healthy People 2010
10. When available, gives demographic detail – age, gender, race/ethnicity, education, and income level – to identify disparities
11. Indicator is comprehensible and does not require extensive explanation